

U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20230

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

10:00 A.M. EST TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2005

For information contact:

Nick Orsini (301) 763-6959

Vanessa Ware (301) 763-2311

CB-05-167, FT-900A (05-10)

Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products October 2005

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary October steel imports were **\$1.8 billion (2.5 million metric tons)**. This was an increase of \$0.3 billion (0.5 million metric tons) from the preliminary September totals of \$1.5 billion (2.0 million metric tons).

The September to October change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected increases primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs; and hot rolled sheets. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected increases primarily with Brazil and Mexico.

The year to date statistics through September 2005 showed steel imports of 21.8 million metric tons, compared with 23.5 million metric tons through September 2004. The largest commodity decreases were in wire rods; hot rolled sheets; reinforcing bars; and blooms, billets, and slabs. An increase occurred primarily in oil country goods. The largest country decreases were with Turkey, Brazil, and Russia. The largest country increase was with China.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at: www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/. On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is December 28, 2005.